

Chrono

14 November 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Visit with AD/BI

1. Capt. Knowles gave me his usual thorough, clear briefing on the status of an NIS program and the work of the OBI. The following points are noteworthy:

a. CIA contributions to the NIS

DD/P contributions are good. OSI contributions are pretty good although occasionally there are problems with the writing. The quality of the ORR economic contributions was initially pretty poor. The main problems being bad writing and the disjointed nature of contributions prepared by a number of different ORR components. The problem has been discussed with ORR. Capt. Knowles feels that there is improvement and that the remaining problems will be worked out. Contributions from the ORR Geographic Area are consistently good.

b. Air Force contributions to the NIS

Capt. Knowles had a good bit to say about some of the duplication of effort and inadequacies in the contributions from the Air Force. He feels that the problems are a result of a new service feeling a little too big for its boots, that Air Force intelligence is staffed by men who do not know or like intelligence, and that many Air Force intelligence activities are dictated by Air Force policy considerations.

c. State Department contributions to the NIS

Capt. Knowles regrets the amount of effort that State Dept. intelligence puts into work on current flaps. He feels that the current intelligence problem is reasonably well-covered by OGI and other elements of the intelligence community, but that only State Dept. has the responsibility for basic research into political and sociological intelligence problems, and that this work is being neglected.

d. Need for a national plan of intelligence

Capt. Knowles feels that there does not exist an adequate national plan for the organization and functioning of intelligence. He feels that there is plenty of manpower in the intelligence community to do the jobs that should be done, but that there is a need to channel this manpower in the right directions. He mentions the cases of the Air Force and State Dept. as examples of misdirected effort that might be solved in time if there were an adequate national plan toward which all intelligence agencies were working.

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